

**Programme of the 2018 Day of General Discussion (DGD)**

**UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

***“Protecting and Empowering Children as Human Rights Defenders (CHRDs)”***

**28 September 2018 – Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>9:00 – 10:00</b>	<b>Icebreaker/ music/ activities</b>
<b>10:00-10:20</b>	<b>Opening plenary: Introductory remarks</b> <i>Moderator: Renate Winter, Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Kate Gilmore</b>, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights</li><li>• <b>Michel Forst</b>, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders</li><li>• <b>Keita</b>, young defender, Winner of the International Children's Peace Prize 2015</li></ul>
<b>10:20-11:00</b>	<b>Plenary: Protection and empowerment of children as human rights defenders</b> <i>Moderator: Beatrice Schulter, Child Rights Connect</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mikiko Otani</b>, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child</li><li>• DGD Children’s Advisory Team: <b>Akanksha</b> (15, Canada), <b>Kurt</b> (16, Argentina), <b>Mazidath</b> (18, Benin)</li></ul> <i>Questions &amp; answers</i>
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<b>Break, followed by work in three working groups</b>
<b>11:15 – 13:00</b>	<b>Working groups</b> ( <i>see details below</i> )
<b>13:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b> ( <i>side events</i> )
<b>15:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Working groups continued</b> ( <i>see details below</i> )
<b>16.30 – 17.00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>17.00-18.00</b>	<b>Concluding plenary: Sharing key learnings and recommendations</b> <i>Moderator: Hans Brattskar, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations in Geneva</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working groups’ and DGD Hubs’ feedback by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child</li><li>• <b>Michel Forst</b>, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders</li><li>• <b>Luis Pedernera</b>, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child</li><li>• DGD Children’s Advisory Team: <b>Ariadna</b> (15, Moldova), <b>Diana</b> (15, El Salvador), <b>Sameer</b> (13, Pakistan)</li></ul>

## Working groups' methodology

Participants will indicate in the registration form in which of the working groups they will participate:

**Group 1: Online space**, everything related to the web and digital media.

**Group 2: State actors**, government, parliament, judiciary, Children's Ombudspersons and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), UN bodies, regional organizations, etc.

**Group 3: Non-State actors**, children's parliament, civil society, business, media, etc.

Each group will discuss protection and empowerment of children human rights defenders at local, national and international levels.

Every group will open with a short dialogue between adults, children and youth on a certain topic and will continue with an open discussion and short interventions from the participants.

Participants can choose to stay in the same group between 11.30 and 16.30 (with a lunch break from 13.00-15.00), or move between groups.

## Plenaries and Working groups' venues

<b>Opening plenary</b>	<b>Room XVII</b>
<b>WG 1 – online space</b>	<b>Room XXII</b>
<b>WG 2 – State actors</b>	<b>Room XXV</b>
<b>WG 3 – non-State actors</b>	<b>Room XVII</b>
<b>Closing plenary</b>	<b>Room XVII</b>

Interpretation in English, French and Spanish will be provided for all discussions. Sign-language and captioning will be provided for plenary discussions and for WG1.

All plenary and WG discussions will be webcasted on <http://webtv.un.org>

**11:15 – 13:00: Working groups**

<b>Group 1: online</b>	<b>Group 2: State actors</b>	<b>Group 3: non-State actors</b>
<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Clarence Nelson</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Christina, 16, USA</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Kirsten Samdberg</i></p>	<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Amal Al-Dossari</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Hannah, 12, Scotland</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Benyam Mezmur</i></p>	<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Hynd Ayoubi Idrissi</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Maxwell, 15, Zambia</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Ann Skelton</i></p>
<p><b>Civil society space for CHRDs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Gaffey, Ambassador of Ireland to the UN Geneva</li> <li>• Amy, 17, Canada</li> </ul> <p><b>Empowerment through digital media</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regina Jensdottir, Council of Europe</li> <li>• Melissa, 17, Brazil</li> </ul> <p><b>Child-led initiatives &amp; protection online</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomomasa, youth former representative of Study Group on Social Media, Japan</li> <li>• Konstantinos, 16, Greece</li> </ul>	<p><b>National protection measures for CHRDs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vincent Ploton, International Service for Human Rights</li> <li>• Keita, young defender, Liberia</li> </ul> <p><b>Participation of children in public affairs/freedom of assembly and association</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Olivier de Frouville, UN Human Rights Committee</li> <li>• Luis, 17, Peru</li> <li>• Eoyel, 15, Ethiopia</li> </ul> <p><b>CHRDs in armed conflict &amp; humanitarian situations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on Internally Displaced Persons</li> <li>• Sandra Camila, 16, Colombia</li> <li>• Haya, 15, Syria</li> </ul>	<p><b>Freedom of speech and violence in schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alejandro Cussianovich, teacher and academic</li> <li>• Camila, 17, Chile</li> <li>• Gabriel, 16, Brazil</li> </ul> <p><b>Role of business and donors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Schofield, Aviva</li> <li>• Murhabazi Namegabe, Bureau pour le Volontariat au Service de l’Enfance et de la Santé in DRC</li> <li>• Rose Ann, 17, Philippines</li> </ul> <p><b>Empowerment through CRC monitoring and reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jorge Freyre, Save the Children</li> <li>• Luigi, 17, Guatemala</li> <li>• Angelica, 15, Guatemala</li> </ul>

**15:00 – 16:30: Working groups continued**

<b>Group 1: online</b>	<b>Group 2: State actors</b>	<b>Group 3: non-State actors</b>
<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Gehad Madi</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Aishwayra, 17, India</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Kirsten Samdberg</i></p>	<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Jorge Cardona</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Nayeli, 16, Ecuador</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Benyam Mezmur</i></p>	<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <i>CRC: Suzanne Aho</i>  <i>Children’s Advisory Team:</i>  <i>Mazidath, 18, Benin</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Ann Skelton</i></p>
<p><b>Empowerment &amp; protection of CHRDs victims of sexual exploitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Najat Maala M’jid, academic</li> <li>• Himanshu, 15, India</li> </ul> <p><b>Indigenous CHRDs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manuel Lopez, OHCHR Indigenous Fellow</li> <li>• Theland, 15, Canada</li> </ul> <p><b>CHRDs with disabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalina Devandas Aguillar, UN Special Rapporteur on persons with disabilities</li> <li>• Magdalena, 12, Moldova</li> <li>• James, 15, Scotland</li> </ul>	<p><b>Role of legislature, children’s parliament</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patricio Cueva-Parra, World Vision</li> <li>• Haneen, 14, Palestine</li> </ul> <p><b>CHRDs in alternative care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salimane Issifou, SOS Children’s Village Benin</li> <li>• Ryan, 17, Scotland</li> <li>• Agnes, 14, Benin</li> </ul> <p><b>Role of Ombudspersons for children and NHRIs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genevieve Avenard, French Children’s Ombudsperson &amp; Chair of the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC)</li> <li>• Foyosal, 15, Bangladesh</li> </ul>	<p><b>Empowerment through transitional justice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rémy Ngoy Lumbu, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders of African Commission on Human and People’s Rights</li> <li>• Nima, 15, Ivory Coast</li> </ul> <p><b>Empowerment of girls CHRDs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saneri, Plan International Indonesia</li> <li>• Mellicentia, 17, Sierra Leone</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental CHRDs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Windführ, UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</li> <li>• Zarah, young defender, Philippines</li> </ul>

The bios of the speakers are available on Child Rights Connect’s website <https://www.childrightsconnect.org/day-of-general-discussion-2/>